AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the

application:

Listing of Claims:

1.   (Currently Amended) In a home entertainment system that includes a central device, a display device and a recording system, a method for operating the recording system to record a signalprogramming, the method comprising the steps for:

connecting a central device directly to a display device and to a recording system, such that any signal that reaches the recording system must be transmitted from the central device to the recording system;

receiving and storing an electronic programming guide at the central device;

receiving recording instructions at the central device to record programming at the recording system;

in response to the recording instructions, transmitting the programming which is received at the central device to the recording system and at a time indicated by the recording instructions, wherein the programming is recorded on a recording medium by the recording system;

in response to the recording instructions, and prior to sending the programming to the recording system to be recorded, sending a first set of programming information from the stored electronic programming guide to the recording system, wherein the recording system records the first set of programming information to the recording medium; and

the central device transmitting a second set of programming information comprising indexing information that is included in the stored electronic programming guide from the central device to the recording system, wherein the recording system records the indexing information to the recording medium.;

transmitting a signal carrying programming from the central device to the recording system;

recording the programming information at the recording system; and

recording the signal at the recording system.

2.   (Currently Amended) A method as recited in claim 1, further comprising the steps for:

connecting an electronics device directly to the central device; and

prior to ~~the step for~~ transmitting the programming~~signal~~ from the central device to the recording system, transmitting the programming~~signal~~ from the electronics device to the central device.

3.   (Original)   A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the central device is an Internet terminal.

4.   (Currently Amended) A method as recited in claim 1, further comprising: ~~the step for~~ receiving, at the central device, the ~~signal~~ programming from a source of programming prior ~~to the step for~~ transmitting the programming to the recording system ~~signal from the central device~~.

5.   (Currently Amended) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein ~~the step for~~ recording the ~~programming~~ indexing information further includes ~~the step for~~ recording information ~~relevant to the programming carried by the signal in an index on a recording medium, wherein the information relevant to the programming includes~~ identifying the location of the recorded programming on the recording medium ~~and information obtained from the electronic programming guide~~.

6.   (Currently Amended) A method as recited in claim ~~5~~1, wherein the first set of programming information includes a title of the programming ~~and the~~ ~~a frame number are recorded in one of the vertical blanking interval or the overscan area of the signal~~.

7-25.   (Cancelled).

26.   (New) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein prior to recording the indexing information, the recording system rewinds or forwards the recording medium to the specified location to be recorded.

27.   (New) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the indexing information is recorded to the VBI or overscan area of the specified location.

28.   (New) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein indexing information corresponding to multiple recorded programming sessions is recorded at the specified location of the recording medium.

29.   (New) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein prior to recording the programming, the method includes automatically determining a beginning of free space on the recording medium based at least in part on the indexing information stored at the specified location.

30.   (New) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein prior to recording the programming, the home entertainment system automatically determining whether there is enough free space to record the programming on the recording medium based at least in part on the indexing information stored at the specified location.

31.   (New) A method as recited in claim 30, wherein upon determining that there is not enough free space to record the programming on the recording medium, the method further includes prompting a user to provide a new recording medium to record the programming.

32.   (New) A computer program product comprising one or more computer-readable media having computer-executable instructions for implementing the method recited in claim 1.